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November 11, 2003

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Ex Parte Notice

Re: Carriage of Digital Television Broadcast Signals, CS Docket No. 98-120
(also CS Docket Nos. 00-96 and 00-2)

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On November 10, representatives of Comcast Corporation met with Johanna Mikes-Shelton, Legal Advisor to Commissioner Adelstein, and then with Stacy Robinson Fuller, Legal Advisor to Commissioner Abernathy. Comcast was represented at both meetings by James R. Coltharp, Chief Policy Advisor, FCC & Regulatory Policy, and the undersigned.

We discussed two letters Comcast filed in this proceeding on November 10, dealing with the “either/or” proposal and with the digital transition. In addition, in the meeting with Ms. Mikes-Shelton, we discussed Comcast’s efforts to negotiate digital carriage agreements with public broadcasters. We described Comcast’s success in having negotiated digital carriage agreements with numerous PBS affiliates and discussed various considerations that are appropriately part of these negotiations (including the presence of multiple PBS affiliates and other noncommercial educational stations in many DMAs, the analog carriage of some state networks well outside of the states that they serve, and the duplicative programming carried by various PBS affiliates serving the same geographic area). We reiterated Comcast’s intention to negotiate practical and mutually advantageous arrangements with public broadcasters wherever possible and stressed that only arrangements entered into without governmental coercion were likely to stand the test of time.

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This letter is filed pursuant to Section 1.1206(b)(2) of the Commission's rules. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Respectfully submitted,

James L. Casserly

cc: Johanna Mikes-Shelton
Stacy Robinson Fuller